

Minutes of the Emergency Surgery Section (ESS) Meeting

Date: 13/04/2025

Location: Aachen, Germany

Chair: Carlos Yanez

Co-Chair: Matti Tolonen

Secretary: Olga Rutka

Participants:

Andrei Mihailescu,
Henrique Alexandrino
Isidro Martinez
Enrico Ortolano
Matteo Cimino
Hayato Kurihara
Stefano PB Cioffi
Alan Biloslavo
Andrea Spota
Beatriz Guerdes
Ana Maria Conzalez
Luca Fattori
Rochelle Dicker
Gabriel Orsi
Raul Coimbra
Mauro Zago
Michele Fogliata
Laura Kvasnicova
Enrico Marrano
Maria Pelloni
Diego Mariani
Christina Rey Valcarcel
Shahin Mohseni
Antonio La Greca

1. Welcome and Introduction

The Chair opened the meeting by acknowledging the efforts of the ESS team, including the Co-Chair and Secretary, and members Henrique (Education Committee) and Enrico (Young ESTES). Additional active members were recognized for their ongoing contributions.

2. Membership Renewal

An email was circulated regarding membership renewal and invitations to apply for position in the committee. Some members are stepping down, and new members are being sought to refresh the team. Henrique Alexandrino did inform section members of his intention to step down from committee member position due to involvement in other part of the society.

Members stepping down:

Andrei Mihailescu
Luca Fattori
Rifat Latifi
Isidro Martinez
Henrique Alexandrino

Incoming candidate applications are being collected, with a voting process to follow after the Congress to ensure fair, balanced representation across Europe and gender equity. It was suggested to extend application submission deadline due to late advertisement.

3. Ongoing and Proposed Projects

Podcast Series:

- A new educational podcast series featuring conversations between a young surgeon and an experienced surgeon was proposed.
- Episodes (10-15 minutes) will be uploaded to the ESS webpage and promoted on social media.
- Topics for the first 8–10 episodes have been selected, with flexibility for expansion.

Literature Review Initiative:

- Members will summarize updates from key journals such as the European Journal of Trauma and Emergency Surgery, but not limited to.
- Updates will occur every 2–3 months, focusing on guidelines and solid scientific evidence.
- Content will be promoted via social media and linked to the ESS webpage.

4. Research Projects Update

Necrotizing Soft Tissue Infections Audit (SNAP Project):

- The project has been revived after a period of inactivity with new leadership.
- Updated protocols have been prepared and plans for a global audit are underway.

Emergency Re-Interventions Study (ERIGES) *Andrei Mihailescu updated section members:*

- A local retrospective audit was completed.
- Plan to start single-centre studies before scaling up.

Asian Pacific Hernia Society Collaboration:

- Ongoing cooperation in laparoscopic techniques for complicated hernias, with successful events held at the University of Sharjah.

5. Discussion on Organizational Improvements

Concerns have been raised by some participants of the meeting regarding organization and management and leadership of the section. Several members emphasized the need for improved communication with other sections of the society and section members and structured meetings. Regular updates and broader involvement of society members were encouraged.

6. Other Business

Proposal to adjust section meeting schedules to allow greater attendance, particularly for younger members. General support was expressed for better transparency and inclusivity across ESS activities.

Due to lack of the time during meeting as multiple members of committee had conflicting commitments decision was to organize a follow up meeting (possibly via Zoom) to discuss raised issues in more detail as well as agree on further meeting for election of the new members.

Impromptu meeting took place on 14/04/25 – were some issues raised at the formal meeting had been discussed and consensus was reached that Chair does have a support of the wider team, however leadership and guidance of the section could be improved. Group agreed to arrange meeting in upcoming week for formal election of the new members.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next Steps:

Follow up meeting to be held on 2nd May (link to Zoom meeting to follow).

Circulation of election details and scheduling of the Zoom meeting for voting.